

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-01 LAB-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 SWF-01 FEA-01

AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-08 NEA-06 IO-04 OIC-01 DRC-01

/105 W

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R 151655Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8730

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, GATT  
SUBJ: 9-11 MEETING OF TNC SUBGROUP 3(E) (AGRICULTURE)

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR US MISSION EC

PARIS ALSO FOR US MISSION OECD

SUMMARY: IN ITS OCTOBER 9-11 MEETING TNC SUBGROUP 3(E) MADE FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE REVIEW OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE LDC'S. IT ALSO HAD A NOTEWORTHY DISCUSSION ON SANITARY AND PHYTO-SANITARY PROBLEMS ON THE BASIS OF A PAPER DONE BY THE SECRETARIAT CONCERNING THE APPLICABILITY OF THE DRAFT STANDARDS CODE TO AGRICULTURE. THE MEETING ENDED WITH A HEATED DEBATE ON 3(E)'S JURISDICTION. THE EC ASSERTED THAT GROUP 3(E) HAS EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OVER ALL MATTERS CONCERNING BTN CHAPTERS 1-24. THE DEBATE CENTERED ON THE VALIDITY OF 3(A)'S DECISION TO ESTABLISH A TARIFF RATE FILE INCLUDING BTN CHAPTERS 1-24. EC DID NOT PREVAIL AND AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THE TARIFF STUDY INITIATED IN GROUP 3(A). END SUMMARY.

1. OPENING SESSION OF GROUP 3(E) WAS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF RECENT TRENDS IN PRODUCT SECTORS REQUESTED BY LDC'S AT EARLIER MEETING, I.E., RICE, TOBACCO,, PRESEVERED MEATS, GRAPES, VEGTABLE OILS, TOMATOES, AND STRAWBERRIES.

2. RICE. JAPAN (YOSHIKUNI) MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT ON RICE SUGGESTING SOLUTION TO MARKET INSTABILITY PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOUGHT IN POLICIES FOR INCREASING PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. JAPAN SUGGESTED CERTAIN MEASURES TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. U.S. DELEGATE (KOENIG) POINTED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INADEQUACY OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION AND CAUTIONED AGAINST DRAWING CONCLUSIONS ABOUT LONGER-RUN PROBLEMS FOR WORLD RICE MARKETS. THE EC (PIZZUTI) PROPOSED, IN GENERAL TERMS, THAT ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE FOR STABLE MARKETS AT REASONABLE PRICES FOR BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. THAILAND STATED THAT PRICE SUPPORTS, INCLUDING EXPORT SUBSIDIES IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WERE THE MAJOR PROBLEM FACING RICE EXPORTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THAILAND REQUESTED THE SECRETARIAT TO IDENTIFY THESE MEASURES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON WORLD RICE TRADE.

3. TOBACCAO. GROUP DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME TO DISCUSSING PROBLEMS OF TOBACCO TRADE. TURKEY LED OFF WITH STATEMENT ON MARKET OUTLOOK AND PROPOSED SECRETARIAT UNDERTAKE STUDY OF NTB'S. IN ADDITION, THEY SUGGESTED FURTHER WORK ON CERTAIN COMPARATIVE ASPECTS OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE (SEE MTN/3E/W/24). U.S. AND PAKISTAN SUPPORTED TURKISH CONCERN ON NTB'S BUT EC AND JAPAN STRESSED LONG-TERM DEMAND FOR TOBACCO WAS STRONG AND THAT TRADE BARRIERS WERE THEREFORE NOT A PROBLEM. U.S. GAVE ITS ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT WORLD SITUATION AND SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK. INDIA (HEMRAJANI), IN A LENGTHY STATEMENT, COMPLAINED ABOUT INSUFFICIENT PURCHASES BY JAPANESE TOBACCO MONOPOLY, LOSS OF COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCES IN UK, SMALL EC TARIFF QUOTA UNDER GSP, AND EC ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WITH GREECE. INDIAN DELEGATE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE STRUCTURE OF THE EC TOBACCO TARIFFS RESULTING FROM 24:6 NEGOTIATIONS WEAKENED THE COMPETITIVENESS OF LOWER QUALITY TOBACCO PRODUCED IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN GENERAL, INDIAN DELEGATE STATED THAT INDIAN TOBACCO COULD COMPETE WITH SOME GRADES OF U.S. TOBACCO IN EC AND JAPANESE MARKET BUT WAS DISADVANTAGED BY IMPORT SYSTEMS OF THESE COUNTRIES WHICH FAVORED HIGH-PRICED TOBACCO. INDIA, SUPPORTED BY POLAND, REQUESTED DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE PRICE SUPPORT SYSTEM IN THE EC.

4. OTHER PRODUCTS. IN STATEMENT ON PRESERVED MEATS, THE POLISY DELEGATE (BARTOSZEWICZ) COMPLAINED ABOUT EC AND JAPANESE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS BUT PRAISED THE OPEN ACCESS TO U.S. MARKET. GRAPES, TOMATOES AND STRAWBERRIES DREW FEW COMMENTS. MEXICO, SUPPORTED BY DOMINICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPUBLIC, COMPLAINED ABOUT PROBLEMS CAUSED BY US MARKETING REGULATIONS FOR TOMATOES.

5. FATS AND OILS. THE GROUP ALSO TOOK UP THE QUESTION OF A GLOBAL STUDY OF THE FATS AND OILS SECTOR AS REQUESTED BY A(F). FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SECRETARIAT PREPARED A SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHY WHICH WAS DISTRIBUTED ALONG WITH CERTAIN FAO DOCUMENTS. THE US. POINTED OUT THAT, WHILE THESE DOCUMENTS WERE USEFUL, THEY FAILED TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF PROBLEMS IN THIS VERY COMPLEX SECTOR. THE U.S. THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT IN ORDER TO GIVE A GLOBAL VIEW OF THIS SECTOR IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE GROUP TO HAVE SUMMARY TABLES SHOWING, FOR INSTANCE, PRODUCTION AND TRADE BY PRODUCT, ORIGIN, AND USE. THE U.S. PRESENTED A TENTATIVE FORMAT AND STRESSED

THAT IT WAS BEING SUBMITTED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES  
ONLY. THE US. SUGGESTED FORMAT WAS DISTRIBUTED IN THE  
FORM OF A TABLE AS MTN/3E/W/25/ADD.1 THE  
GROUP FELT THAT THIS COULD BE A USEFUL WAY OF  
SUMMARIZING THE DOCUMENTATION.

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